

Claims

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What is claimed is:

1. Use of a serine palmitoyltransferase (SPT) inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for elevating high density lipoprotein (HDL) particles in a mammal in need thereof.
2. Use of a serine palmitoyltransferase (SPT) inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for lowering very low density lipoprotein (VLDL) particles and low density lipoprotein (LDL) particles in a mammal in need thereof.
3. Use of a serine palmitoyltransferase (SPT) inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for lowering plasma triglycerides particles in a mammal in need thereof.
4. Use of a serine palmitoyltransferase (SPT) inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for lowering serum levels of total cholesterol in a mammal in need thereof.
5. Use of a serine palmitoyltransferase (SPT) inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for improving plasma lipid profile in a mammal in need thereof.
6. Use of a serine palmitoyltransferase (SPT) inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for reducing the size of plaque in a mammal in need thereof.
7. Use of a serine palmitoyltransferase (SPT) inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for reducing the size of an atherosclerotic lesion in a mammal in need thereof.
8. Use of a serine palmitoyltransferase (SPT) inhibitor for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of a disease or condition selected from dyslipidemia, atherosclerosis, diabetes, metabolic syndrome or inflammation in a mammal in need thereof.
9. The use as in any one of the preceding claims, in which the SPT inhibitor is myriocin.
10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
 - a compound that is a serine palmitoyltransferase (SPT) inhibitor; and
 - b) a second compound useful for the treatment of atherosclerosis or dyslipidemia.
11. A kit that comprises:
 - a serine palmitoyltransferase (SPT) inhibitor and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, vehicle or diluent in a first unit dosage form;
 - b) a second compound that is useful for the treatment of atherosclerosis or dyslipidemia and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, vehicle or diluent in a second unit dosage form; and
 - c) a means for containing the first and second unit dosage forms.

12. The composition of claim 10 or the kit of claim 11 wherein the second compound is an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, an HMG-CoA synthase inhibitor, an HMG-CoA reductase gene expression inhibitor, an HMG-CoA synthase gene expression inhibitor, a CETP inhibitor, a bile acid sequestrant, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a cholesterol biosynthesis inhibitor, a squalene synthetase inhibitor, a fibrate, niacin, a combination of niacin and lovastatin and an antioxidant; and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, vehicle or diluent in a second unit dosage form; wherein the amounts of first and second compounds result in a therapeutic effect.

13. The composition or kit of claim 12 wherein the second compound is an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor selected from lovastatin, simvastatin, pravastatin, fluvastatin, atorvastatin, rivastatin, rosuvastatin or pitavastatin.

14. The composition or kit of claim 12 wherein the second compound is a CETP inhibitor, which is torcetrapib.

15. The composition of claim 10 or the kit of claim 11 wherein the SPT inhibitor is myriocin.